

## TONOPAH DAILY BONANZA

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## EDITORIAL COMMENT

## BAD STATE OF AFFAIRS.

The former employees of the Tonopah and Goldfield railroad have made a fight and lost. They have admitted that they are in the wrong. The citizens, through their committee, investigated the grievance, and were compelled in justice to the railroad to admit that its officials could act in no other way than they have done.

The strikers have been denied the support of their national organizations, and have been commanded by them to return to work. The committee of citizens who came here from Goldfield to demand of the railroad that the tie-up be ended by putting the men back to work, returned to Goldfield to tell the citizen body that the road was right and that the men were in the wrong. The citizens of Tonopah have expressed the sense of their meeting be that the men return to work. The railroad officials have said that they will receive back the good men of the strikers as individuals. As the men declare that they went out as individuals, and not as unions, there can be no objection to that.

And still the strikers declare that they will not return to work until Conductor Cowan, who was discharged for insubordination, be reinstated.

They admit that they are wrong, and yet declare that they are right.

As a matter of fact the men have not a leg to stand on. At the meeting of the citizens last night, Chairman Schrader stated in answer to questions put to him, that in going on a strike, the men had violated the rules of their union. He said also that the men had not the support of the national bodies of their unions, but they were standing out on a matter of principle for the reinstatement of Conductor Cowan, and would "take their medicine, no matter how big the dose."

We have refrained from taking sides on this question until the entire matter had been threshed out between the men and their former employer. The men acted in a manner which was not calculated to win public sympathy, but we let that go as a matter which might have resulted from bad advice or lack of judgment. Particularly was this the case in their refusal to handle the mails. Of course there is no law to compel them to do this, but in refusing to carry the mail, the strikers were not only cramping the railroad, but they were doing a gross injustice to the public without, whose support they could not hope to win. By their arbitrary action they lost friends, but even at that, if they had been right, all Tonopah would have rallied to their support, and carried their fight to the railroad and aided them in accomplishing their purpose.

It has come to a pretty pass if one man is going to tie up a whole district, for this is what the situation amounts to. Conductor Cowan, it is said, committed an act of insubordination in refusing to take out the ore train. The railroad employees may say that he "objected" to taking out the train, but did not refuse. This is another of those fine distinctions without a difference.

We have been isolated here for the past four days, and Goldfield has been in the same position. Today we will be without fresh meats; we have no coal, and are pretty short on wood; we are short on all sorts of supplies. Business is practically at a standstill.

It would seem that nothing more need be said, and that the men were ready to return to work. But they refused, and say that they will not return until their demand, which they admit is based upon a violation of the rules of their union.

By not going to work the strikers can keep this town in a further state of desolation; they can stop the mills from working, and stagnate business for awhile; but in the end they must submit to the inevitable, and stand by and see their places filled by men of their own calling, and of their own union. It will take time to do this, for the reason that Tonopah is in an isolated position in the railroad world. But it will be done, and when it is accomplished, the men will be out of a job, and out of a union; and there will be no place left to them in the United States where they can secure work, because they have violated the obligations of their respective unions, which obligations are the most sacred to union men.

Let the men not flatter themselves that men of their unions will not come hurrying to this part of the country. They will come here from New York, if the time is given them, for the wages paid here are the best on any railroad in the world today.

The men are not only injuring themselves, but they are injuring the rest of us; they are hurting more than anybody, their own class of people. The price of meat, of all kinds of supplies, is bound to go up, for they will have to be freighted in, and the workingman is going to be the worst sufferer in the long run.

There is still a chance for the striking men to return to their lost places. It will mean a great saving to Tonopah, and it will mean a great saving to them, if they do. If they do not, Tonopah will soon recover, but what is left to the railroad men?

Whether the men go back or choose to stay away, the tie-up cannot last longer than a day or two; just as long as it takes to get men in here and no longer. There is no wage question at issue. There is nothing at issue but the fact that the men have violated the obligations of their unions, and the fact that they are entirely to blame.

## MEETS FRIGHTFUL DEATH IN AUTO

[By Associated Press.]

COALINGA, Cal., Oct. 4.—William Kerr, one of Coalunga's best known citizens, met a frightful death last evening when the automobile in which he was riding ran over a forty-foot bluff. The machine turned over, pinning him underneath, and the gasoline tank exploded, literally cremating him. The accident occurred near Kreyenhagen Place, 18 miles south of here, at 8 o'clock last evening. Kerr was accompanied by his brother-in-law, Samuel Mills. When they reached Kreyenhagen Place, Mills alighted to open a gate. In

passing through Kerr lost the road in the darkness and started to follow the trail up a steep incline, and following the edge of the precipice the machine stopped on the grade. It was cranked by Mills, and Kerr reversed the lever to back the car, but the brakes refused to work and the heavy machine shot backwards over the bluff.

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On the banks of the River Purus, in South America, are found a small tribe of Indians whose dark skin is spotted with lighter blotches.

## FORD'S CASE IS IN HANDS OF THE JURY

[By Associated Press.]

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 4.—The case against Tiley L. Ford, chief counsel of the United Railroads and former attorney general of the State of California, accused of bribery of former Supervisor Thomas F. Loneragan, went to the jury at 6:25 o'clock tonight. Assistant District Attorney Heney concluded the closing argument for the prosecution with a speech of great power at 5:40 o'clock. He spoke for two hours, following Earl Rogers, who, in a brilliant and vigorous argument, closed for the defense. Judge Lawlor then charged the jury.

The audience which listened to the closing arguments was the largest that ever heard the closing of a criminal trial in San Francisco. It is estimated that 2700 people were present. The day was exceedingly warm and the air in the tabernacle was stifling. Bailiffs and policemen kept order with difficulty, and in- elpient applause was quelled a score of times. Once when Heney flashed a stunning answer at Attorney Byington, who had interrupted him, the big crowd broke into a storm of applause. Two men in the gallery, who started the applause, were ejected by order of the court.

After summing up the evidence, Heney explained why Abraham Ruef was not placed on the witness stand by the prosecution. "It was," he said, "because we did not trust him."

"You do not trust him," interrupted Mr. Byington of the defense, "and he has not been sentenced for six months—what are you keeping him for?"

"What are we keeping him for, well, that is our business," snapped Heney.

"Is it not a fact," persisted Byington, "that you feared his testimony might free an innocent man? You feared he would tell the truth, there is no other explanation." Byington then complained that although Ruef was in the court room all the time, the defense had no chance to talk to him for the reason that the prosecution's guards were always in hearing distance.

"That is a fact," shouted Heney. "We wanted to hear what you would say to him; we wanted to see how much you would offer him." At this startling rejoinder, the crowd broke into a demonstration that called down the ire of the court.

Judge Lawlor said that if no verdict is reached by 11:30, the jury will be locked up for the night.

## Electricians Strike Of Short Duration

The electricians in the employ of the Nevada Power Company struck yesterday for seven dollars a day, making the claim that they were entitled by a verbal agreement to the money in consequence of the action of the telephone company in raising their employees to that wage. The men were out all day and were finally given that for which they asked.

## PEON MILLIONAIRE WILL DIE POOR

ROMANTIC STORY OF PEDRO ALVARADO AND HIS FABULOUSLY RICH MINE.

CITY OF MEXICO, Oct. 5.—Pedro Alvarado, the "peon millionaire," has leased his Palmilla mine to J. F. Flynn, who has an office in New York. Mr. Flynn gave an option of the lease to Eugene Davis, of Washington, who undertook to form a company to work the property, which is meanwhile being worked by Mr. Flynn. The terms were a cash payment to Alvarado of two hundred thousand pesos and a loan of six hundred thousand.

The lease is to run fifteen years, during which time Alvarado will receive forty-five per cent of the net proceeds of the mine. It is estimated that the Palmilla mine has produced six million pesos for Alvarado.

Alvarado, however, has been very prodigal with his wealth, and urgent financial necessities forced him to lease the mine, he not having funds enough to unwater the lower levels and he could not borrow under other terms. Because of the old methods employed by him, the mine was not in a condition to facilitate raising money thereon, absolutely no ore being blocked out. The only men he could interest in the deal were local miners who were willing to risk money if they could get control.

With these prospects of more millions Alvarado's acquaintances believe that he will not change his ways of spending and giving away lavishly. When he first began to acquire his great wealth he declared that he intended to die poor, and all his acts since have been along that line. It is estimated that he has given \$10,000,

000 to the poor outside of other lavish expenditures.

Alvarado has always been a hard man to understand. He is the son of an Indian, who married a Mexican woman. The ground on which the Palmilla mines stand once belonged to the father and so zealously did he guard it that he is believed to have had knowledge handed down from the aborigines as to its wealth in ores. The senior Alvarado exacted a promise from his son never to sell the land and the latter has kept his word.

Eight years ago Alvarado was a joke in the mining camps of Parral, in the State of Chihuahua. He was a peon, which meant that he was bound out as a laborer until he worked out an amount that he owed. That he owed money was doubtless due to the same reckless and daring spirit that has put him in debt at the present time.

Even then Alvarado was dreaming of a great future when he would become a Croesus. He told his acquaintances of his great schemes to become wealthy and they only laughed at him. When he got control of a piece of property, which he inherited from his father, in the beginning of the present century and announced his intention of trying to aave a shaft sunk on it there was more laughter at Alvarado the foolhardy.

But Alvarado was a hard worker. He was also a man of great tenacity of purpose. He finally succeeded in mortgaging his "impossible" piece of property for enough money to begin the sinking of a shaft. Days passed without any encouraging results. Every one continued to treat Alvarado as a big joke, but on the day before the mortgage was to be foreclosed on the property Alvarado made his "find."

Gold and silver ore came into view. Almost in a day Alvarado, the peon, became Alvarado, a man of hundreds of thousands. The mining camps gasped, and it did not take long for the story to reach the outside world.

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Soon the whole country, and, in fact, the whole world knew of it.

Stories of his wealth were magnified to a figure several times greater than it was, but a conservative estimate is that he has obtained nearly \$18,000,000 in profits from his mining venture.

With his newly acquired wealth Alvarado acquired new ways of living, but all through his career a fellow feeling for his countrymen has never deserted him, and it was this that has to a great extent been the cause of his present need of friends.

Alvarado built a palace in the center of the poorest part of Parral. It is surrounded by huts and thatched-roof shanties. It is built of marble and stone and stands on the exact spot, it is said, where its owner was born. The facade is simple, but elegant and well proportioned. The stone carving is beautiful and harmonious. The central door opens into a spacious patio, a beautiful feature of all Mexican houses.

One poor feature of the palace, however, is Alvarado's selection of pictures. Not being an art expert he purchased almost anything and everything that was offered to him in the way of decoration. He patronized "home talent," and daubers from all over the republic found him almost as great a "gold mine" as was his real mine in the ground.

The dining room of the palace is at the back of the second story and is furnished in light oak. There are two dinner services of massive silver, costing more than \$25,000. Rich damask curtains hang at carved windows, but there are other furnishings very much out of keeping with the surroundings. Olecloth is usually used as a covering for the dining room table.

The house has a private chapel with figures of angels in the windows. There are a richly decorated altar and an elaborate throne for the bishop.

Alvarado never knew the need of money from the time he mined his first ton of ore to the present time. He had so much money that he did not know what to do with it, and he thought that its source would last forever. He gave to his relatives, to his wife's relatives, to his friends and his friends' friends. No one was turned away empty-handed.

Land attracted Alvarado as a good means of investment, and he bought up much real estate in Parral and built a fine hotel. He established a free hospital for the poor and a church for the residents of the place.

Every month, it is said, Alvarado has paid out \$20,000 in pensions to the poor, and, not satisfied with this, he tried at one time to be allowed to pay off the national debt of Mexico, but the offer was declined.

High walls surround the approach to Alvarado's mining property, and not until his present trouble would he permit foreign investors to enter it.

Three years ago an Eastern concern tried to buy him out.

"Sell my mine?" exclaimed Alvarado. "Come to me when you want to sell your company and we will talk business."

Mexico's mining Croesus was happily married in his younger days, and he is not now more than forty, to a peasant woman who is said to have contributed much to his success. She died in 1905, leaving three children.

Soon after Alvarado acquired his wealth a traveler through the part of the country had this to say of him:

"I spent several weeks at Parral and saw Alvarado almost daily. The interest of every man, woman and child in that city seems to be centered in the man. In a few months his net profit from his mine, which is named the Palmilla, have aggregated \$1,500,000. He will not put his money in banks, but keeps it at home where it is constantly guarded by a large force of armed men. He has from \$200,000 to \$300,000 on his person whenever he goes out on the street or elsewhere, and an armed guard of eight men always accompanies him. The members of his guard are dressed in fantastic Mexican costume and Alvarado is always attired in the height of fashion. He pays a Mexican tailor a high salary to keep him clothed properly.

"Alvarado spends his money with a lavish hand. A few days ago a traveling jewelry and diamond peddler struck Parral with his wares. He was going along the street when he attracted the attention of Alvarado, who, with his armed guard, happened to be passing. He showed his goods to Alvarado and the latter asked how much he would take for his whole outfit. The peddler replied that he would sell out for \$15,000. Without any quibbling over the price asked, Alvarado drew out the money and came into possession of the cheap watches, ornaments and fake diamonds. Alvarado seemed as pleased as a boy with a new top over the trade he had made.

NATIONAL INDOOR EVENTS.

NEW YORK, October 5.—Entry blanks have been issued for the national indoor championships of the A. A. U., which are to be held at Madison Square Garden on October 25 and 26, and it is expected that the indoor championships of this season will surely beat those held last year. It is expected that all the winners in the various events at Jamestown will compete, and with this class of competitors the meet should prove most attractive. The regular indoor list of events will be held each night and to this has been added a one-mile walk for Friday night and a three-mile walk for Saturday night. This is in accordance with the recent boom which has been given walking competitions.

An Advertisement in the Daily Bonanza is sure to bring Results